(b) whether Government propose to increase the facilities to the second class passengers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Allotment/Expenditure on facilities/amenities to passengers at railway stations are charged to plan head "Passenger Amenities" mainly. The budget allotment for the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 under this plan head is Rs. 215.00 crore and Rs. 222.15 crore respectively. Amount likely to be spent during 2004-05 is Rs. 221.67 crore.

(b) and (c) Amenities in passenger coaches are provided as per laid down norms of Railways. Constant efforts are made to make all coaches including Second Class coaches more passenger friendly. Efforts are being made to develop Second Class variants of coaches using imported technology from LHB/Germany.

Number of workers in ICF

1991. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to cut down the number of workers in Integral Coach Factory; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Private sector partnership in Railways

1992. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI HARISH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any study on private sector's partnership in Railways;